DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 456 722 HE 034 282

TITLE	Independent Colleges and Universities: A National Profile.
INSTITUTION	National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities, Washington, DC.; Foundation for Independent Higher Education.
SPONS AGENCY	Council of Independent Colleges, Washington, DC.; Citigroup Foundation, New York, NY.; UPS Foundation, Inc., Greenwich, CT.
PUB DATE	2001-00-00
NOTE	33p.; Some text may not reproduce well. Also funded by the ExxonMobil Foundation.
PUB TYPE	Reports - Descriptive (141)
EDRS PRICE	MF01/PC02 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS	Academic Achievement; College Graduates; *College Students; Graduate Students; *Higher Education; *Institutional Characteristics; Paying for College; *Private Colleges; Profiles; Student Financial Aid

ABSTRACT

This profile of independent colleges emphasizes how diverse, affordable, personal, involved, and flexible such institutions are, and how they contribute to the success of their students. The 1,600 independent colleges and universities in the United States enroll 2.9 million students, and their variety ensures that students have choices in the educational experiences that will best serve their needs and interests. Private colleges and universities are more affordable than many people realize. Eighty percent of students at private institutions received some form of financial aid in 1995-1996. Much of this aid comes from the institutions' own resources, but federal and state financial assistance funds are also available. Education at a private institution is a highly personal experience, and students at private colleges and universities enjoy a lower student-to-faculty ratio than those at state colleges and universities. Independent colleges and universities are involved in their communities in many ways, as employers, sources of volunteers, and leaders in research. Private institutions are both flexible and convenient, meeting the needs of virtually everyone pursuing a higher education. A major characteristic of Independent colleges and universities is that they are successful in helping students achieve their goals. Students attending private colleges are more likely to complete their degrees in 4 years than those at public institutions, and this advantage is apparent for all ethnic groups. Students from private colleges and universities are also more likely to pursue graduate and professional education. (SLD)

Reproductions supplied by EDRS are the best that can be made
from the original document.

ED 456 722

Independent Colleges and Universities

HE 034 282

PERMISSION TO REPRODUCE AND DISSEMINATE THIS MATERIAL HAS BEEN GRANTED BY

F. Balz

TO THE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)

1

2

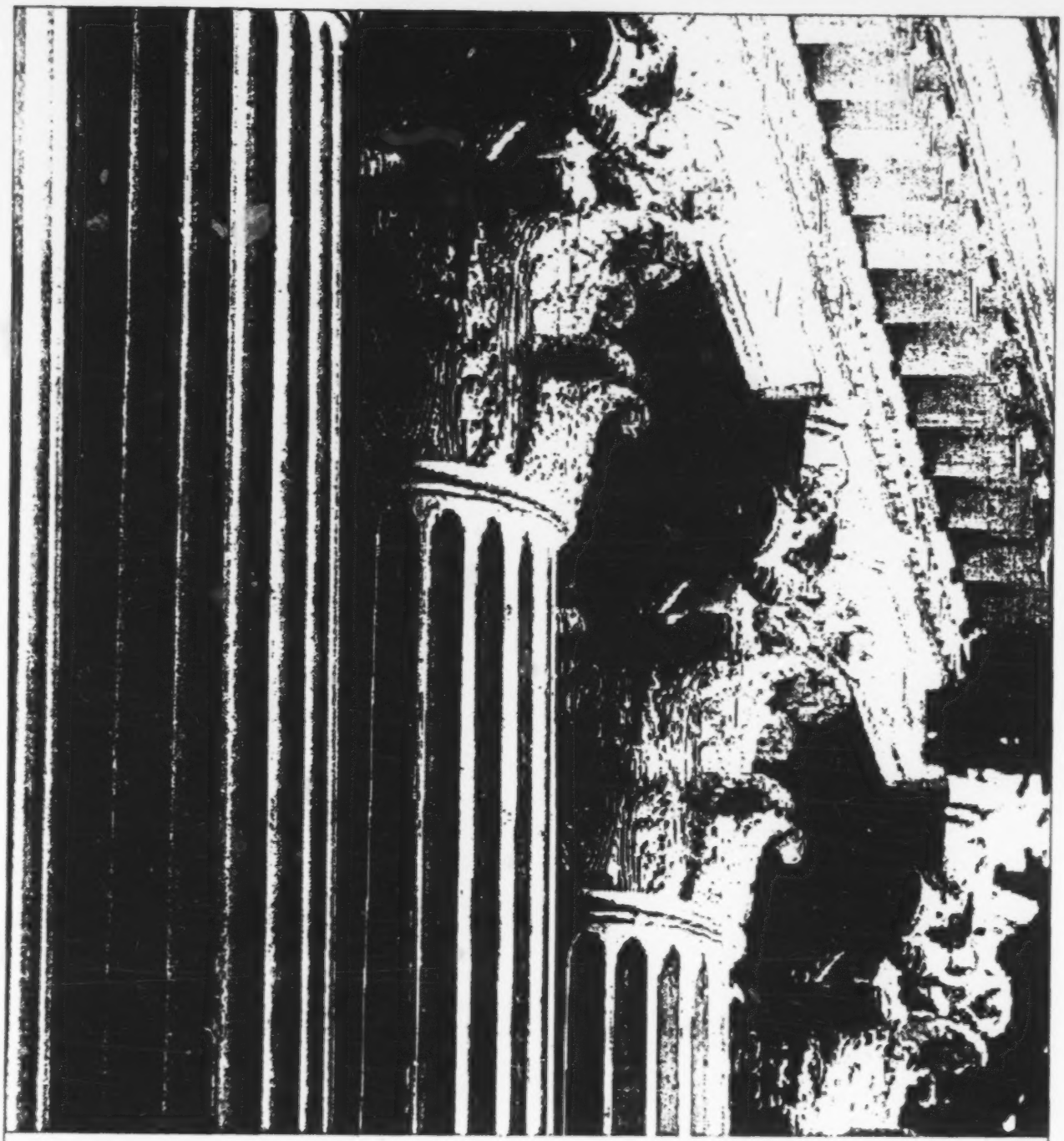
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Office of Educational Research and Improvement
EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)

☐ This document has been reproduced as received from the person or organization originating it.

☐ Minor changes have been made to improve reproduction quality.

• Points of view or opinions stated in this document do not necessarily represent official OERI position or policy.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE



contents

Introduction	1
Diverse	2
Affordable	6
Personal	10
Involved	14
Flexible	18
Successful	22
Summary	26

Independent, or private, colleges and universities are diverse in their depth and variety — in students, academic offerings, tuition levels. We will tell their story briefly in the pages that follow through facts and numbers, but also through profiles of a few of the people who are part of these extraordinary institutions.

Surprising to many is just how affordable a quality private college education can be. It's an attainable dream for students from every social and economic segment of the nation. Through generous student financial aid programs, which often include sizeable grants from the institution's own funds, students from every walk of life can attend a private college or university. Today more than ever, these institutions strive to reduce costs and improve efficiencies so that finances need not be a barrier to any student.

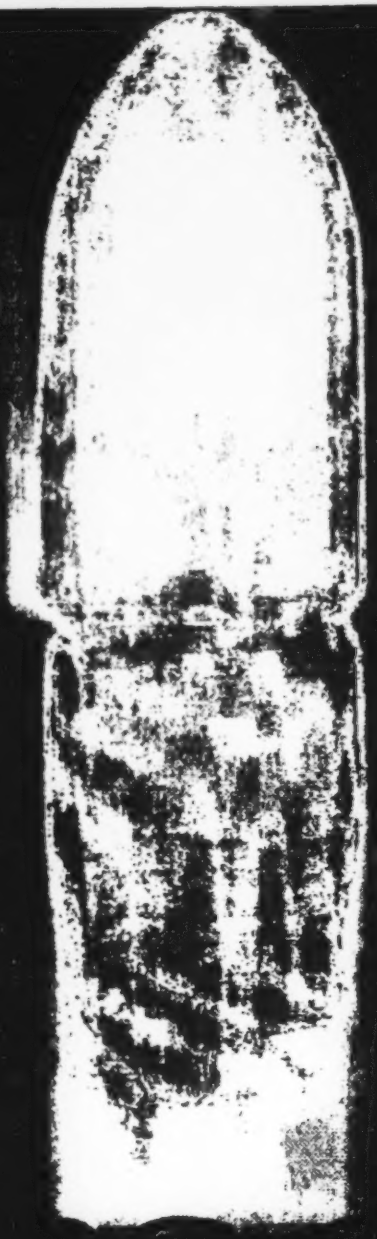
A private college education is a highly personal experience. It is marked by faculty who care about students as individuals, a wide array of counseling and guidance services, and a warm community of students, faculty, and staff who respect and support each other.

Independent colleges and universities are involved in the world beyond the classroom and campus in countless ways — as major employers, sources of a ready pool of volunteers, and leaders in research to benefit all of society. Today, many private colleges and universities also have joined with their neighbors beyond campus in innovative and ambitious partnerships to revitalize the local community.

The nation's 1,600 independent colleges and universities are flexible enough in their programs and convenient enough in their locations to meet the needs of virtually everyone pursuing higher education — whether coming directly out of high school, returning as an older degree student, or improving career skills part-time while continuing to work. Students can select a private college close to home, or get away to the kind of campus setting they prefer — whether urban, suburban, or rural. The flexibility at private colleges also extends to their hours and their offerings, as well as to the creation of satellite campuses close to where students live or work.

Whatever the expectations and needs of individual students, the real measure of a college education is how successful those students become. That means more than salaries and status. The greatest success for private college graduates may lie in the social, ethical, and reasoning skills they acquire through the caring and supportive environment they find on campus. In learning to think critically and communicate effectively, and by appreciating learning as a lifelong journey, private college students develop the abilities that will serve them well wherever life may take them.

"There are students here who come from all kinds of backgrounds. When I came to college, it was amazing to learn how differently people thought about things, and how different their lives were."



Hometown

Major

Activities

Favorite Course

Favorite Pastimes

Future Plans

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

First in her family to go to college, Luz came to St. Edward's under the university's participation in the federal College Assistance Migrant Program, which provides financial aid for the children of migrant workers. "My parents are extremely proud," she says. "I see it every time that I visit them. I would never want to do anything to make that little sparkle disappear from their eyes."

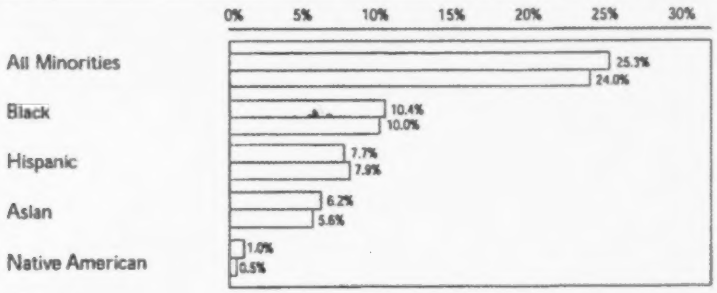
DIVERSE

Independent colleges and universities are as diverse as the nation itself. They include traditional liberal arts colleges, major research universities, church- and faith-related institutions, historically black colleges and universities, women's colleges, two-year colleges, and schools of law, medicine, engineering, art, business, and other professions.

The 1,600 independent colleges and universities in the United States enroll 2.9 million students. The number of students at these institutions ranges from fewer than 100 to more than 30,000, averaging 1,851.

This variety offers students a choice in the type of educational experience that will best serve their interests, needs, and aspirations. As a result, the students attending independent colleges and universities come from a broad array of family backgrounds, ethnicities and age groups, and have a wide-ranging set of academic and career interests.

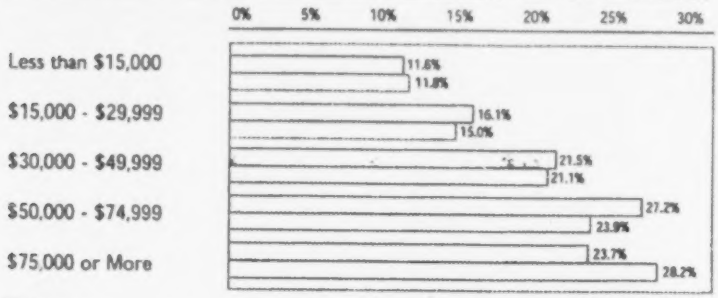
Independent Colleges and Universities Educate Students from Diverse Ethnic Backgrounds



Source: Data are from the U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1998 Analysis by the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities.

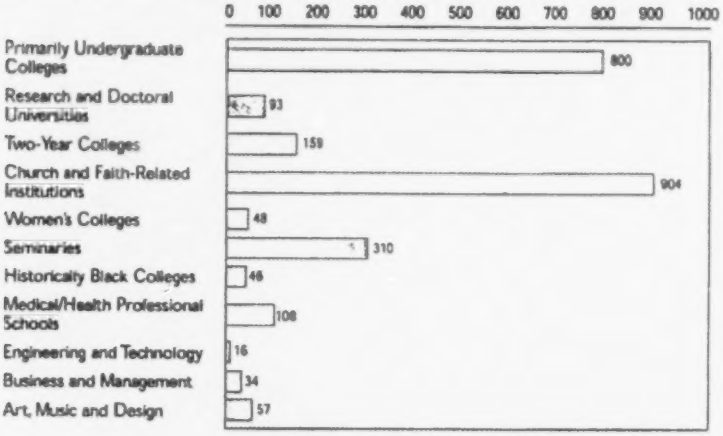
In the U.S. Congress, 46 percent received their undergraduate degrees and 36 percent received their graduate or professional degrees from an independent college or university.

Independent Colleges and Universities Educate Students from All Family Incomes



Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, NPSAS: 1995-96. Analysis by the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities.

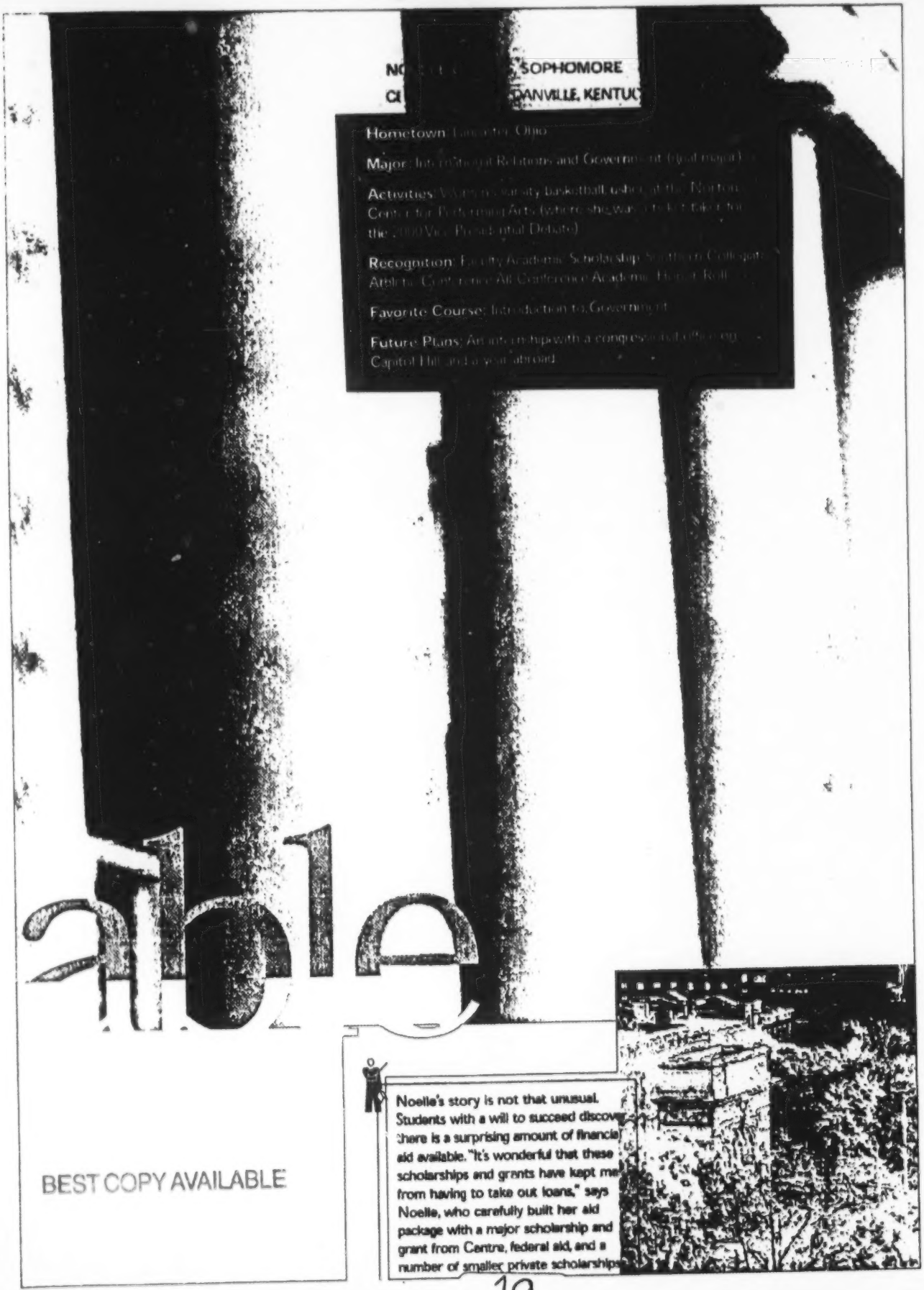
Independent Colleges and Universities Provide Choices



Source: Data are from the U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics; Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, *A Classification of Institutions of Higher Education, 2000 Edition.*

Independent colleges and universities offer degrees in more than 760 fields of study.

"I'm from an average middle-class family, and my parents cringed at the idea of private college because of cost. But through scholarships and grants, last year the entire amount we paid was less than $3,000, which is phenomenally lower than at a state school."



Noelle's story is not that unusual. Students with a will to succeed discover there is a surprising amount of financial aid available. "It's wonderful that these scholarships and grants have kept me from having to take out loans," says Noelle, who carefully built her aid package with a major scholarship and grant from Centre, federal aid, and a number of smaller private scholarships.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

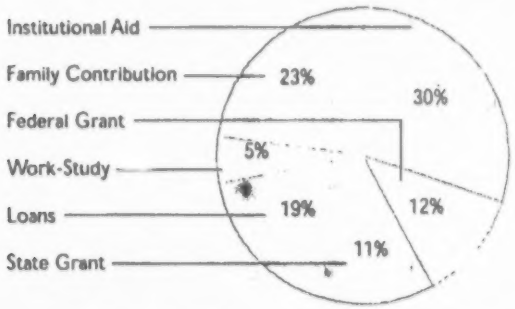
AFFORDABLE

A quality education at an independent college or university is affordable to students of all family incomes. Eighty percent of dependent full-time undergraduate students at private institutions received some form of financial aid in 1995-96, averaging $10,794.

Much of the aid to students comes from the institutions' own resources. In 1999-2000, independent colleges and universities provided nearly $8 billion in financial assistance, mostly in the form of grants, compared with $1.4 billion in 1984-85.

Tuition and fees at four-year independent colleges and universities averaged $13,688 in 2000-01, ranging from zero (no tuition charges) to $26,700. Undergraduate students who receive grant aid pay an average of 61 percent of the published tuition at independent institutions. The amount varies

Sources Are Available to Help Students Pay for a Private College Education



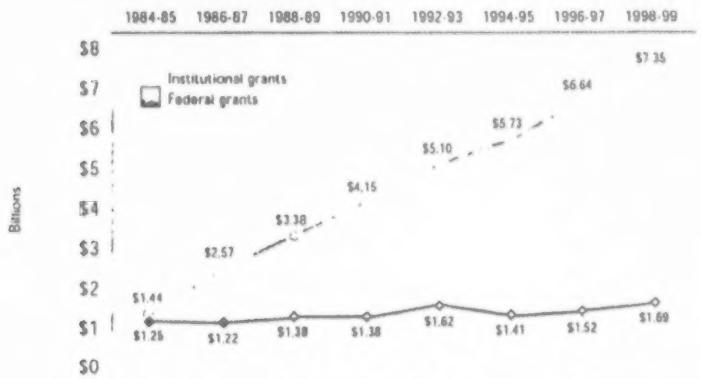
Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1995-96 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study. Analysis by National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities.
Note: Data are for students who received financial aid.

The average debt of students leaving public four-year and private four-year colleges is similar — $12,000 and $14,300, respectively in 1995-96.

according to each student's financial resources. Families who demonstrate the greatest financial need pay an average of 26 percent of the published tuition.

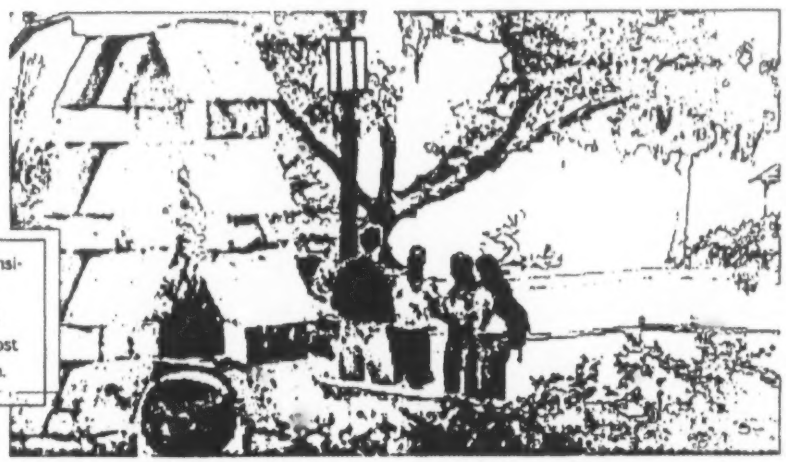
The actual cost of providing education — buildings, books, computers, laboratory equipment, services — is similar at comparable public and private colleges and universities. However, the price charged by public and private institutions is different because states subsidize the tuition of all students at public institutions — an average of $6,300 per student in 1997-98.

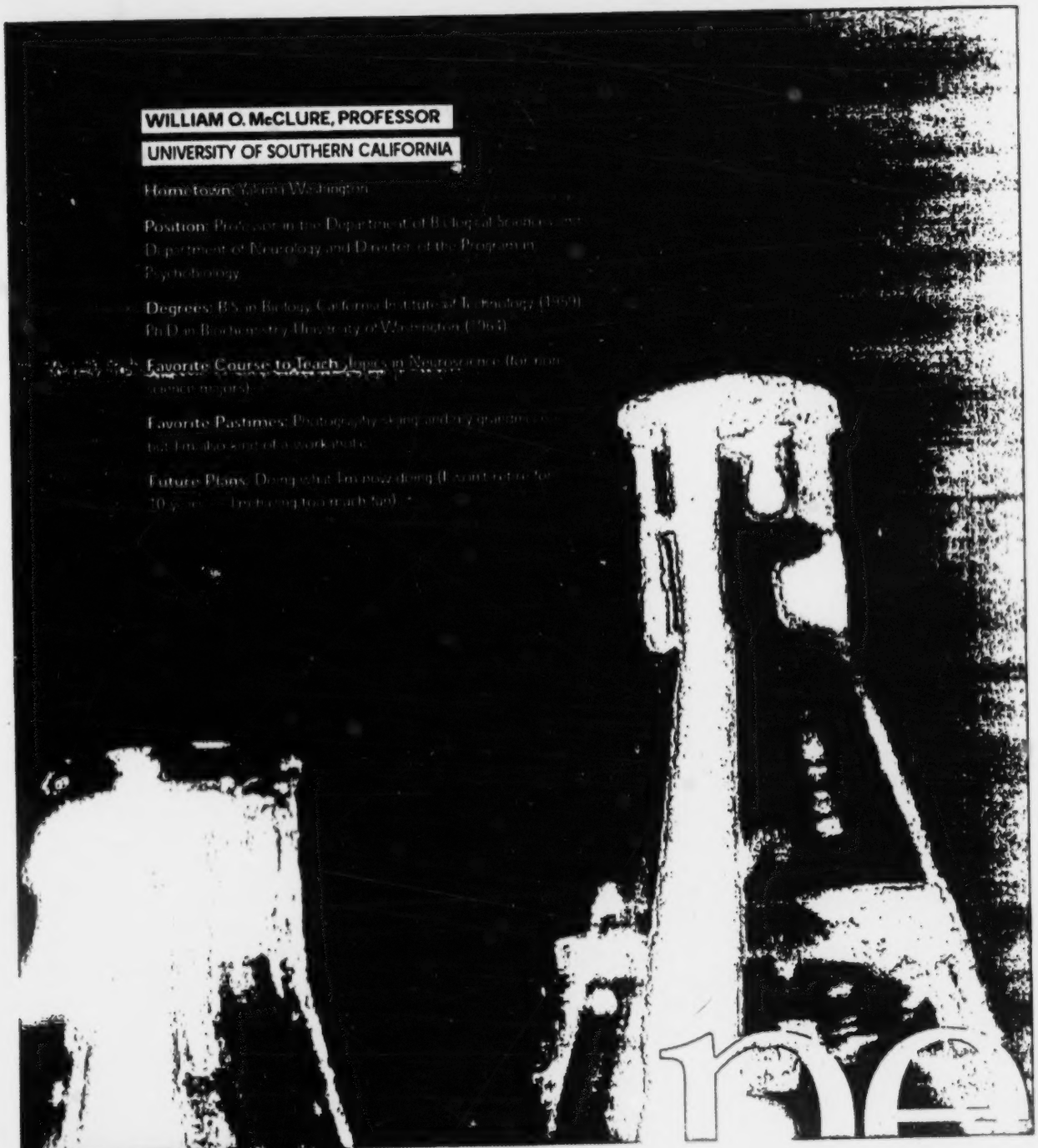
Students Receive More Grant Aid from Independent Institutions than from Federal Sources



Source: Federal Campus-Based Programs Data Book, U.S. Department of Education, various years; Title IV/Federal Pell Grant Program End-of-Year Report, U.S. Department of Education, various years.
Note: Data on federal grant programs include funds only for students attending independent colleges and universities.

If states were to assume the responsibility for educating students now attending independent colleges and universities, the additional annual cost to taxpayers would total $13 billion.





WILLIAM O. McCLURE, PROFESSOR

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Hometown: Yakima, Washington

Position: Professor in the Department of Biological Sciences and Department of Neurology and Director of the Program in Psychobiology

Degrees: BS in Biology, California Institute of Technology, (1959) PhD in Biochemistry, University of Washington (1964)

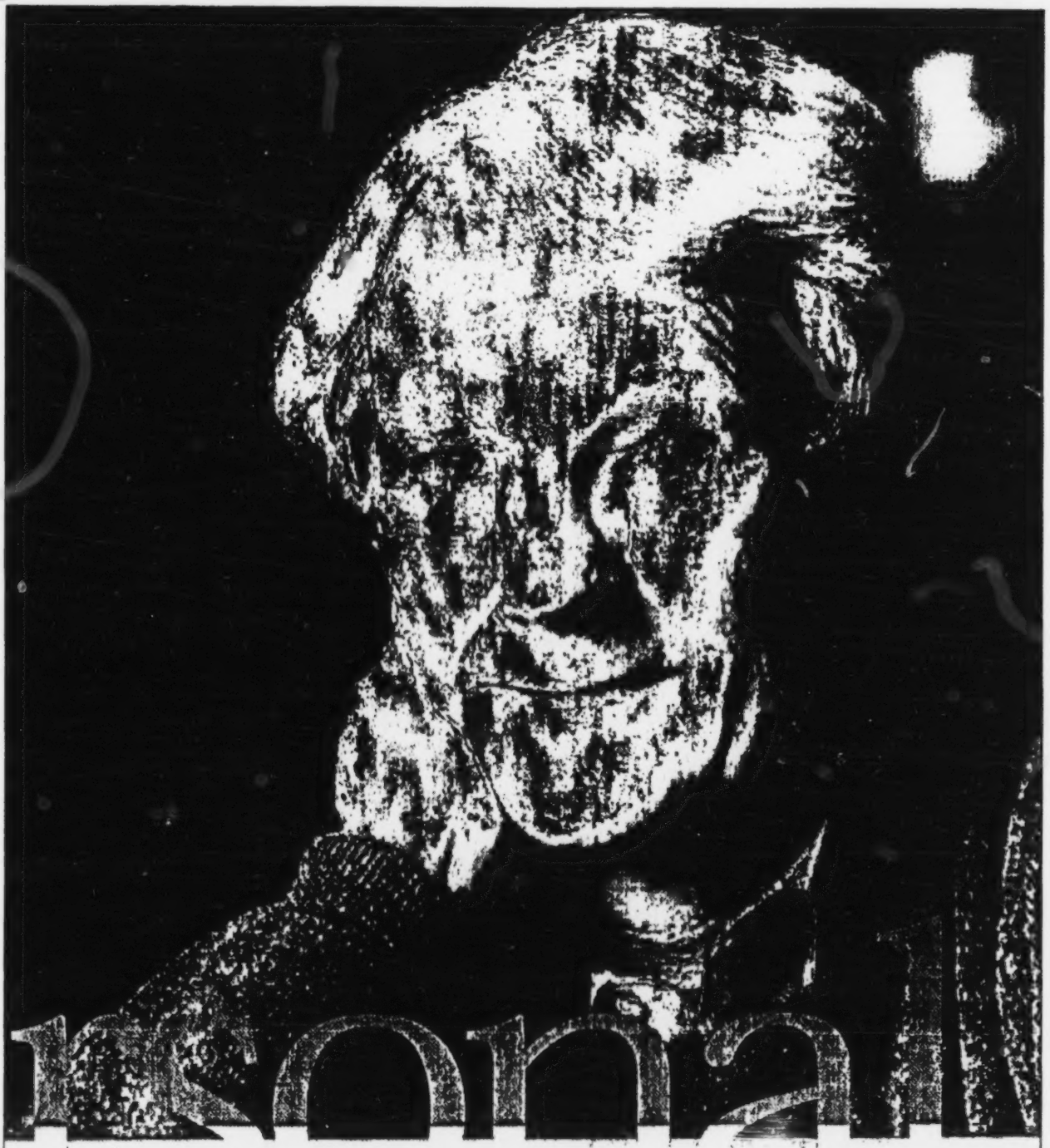
Favorite Course to Teach: Topics in Neuroscience (for non-science majors)

Favorite Pastimes: Photography, skiing and any [illegible] but [illegible] of a workaholic

Future Plans: Doing what I'm now doing (I want to be "[illegible] [illegible] to research [illegible]

He's a respected neuroscience researcher, but Bill McClure may find his greatest rewards in the undergraduates he teaches and counsels, and who assist him in his research. (He insists they call him Bill — "That's made the biggest difference in relating to students.") Between six and 15 students find a home away from home in his lab each semester. "They sort of become extended family," he says.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE



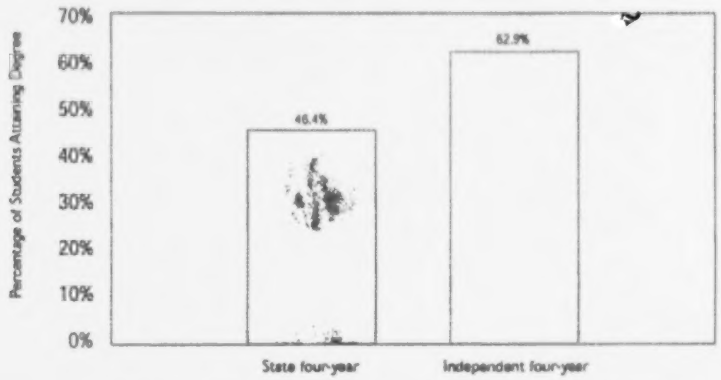
"This is a blessed occupation. I love these kids. Their parents have invested 18 years of very hard work, and then we get to work with these luminous children. They make my life a lot richer."

PERSONAL

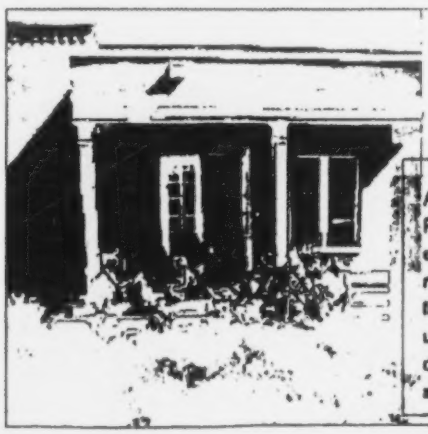
Education at a private institution is a highly personal experience. It is marked by teachers who care about students as individuals, a wide array of counseling services, and a warm community of students, faculty, and staff who respect and support each other.

Students at private colleges and universities enjoy a lower student-to-faculty ratio than at state colleges and universities. They are also more likely to participate in study groups, talk with faculty outside of class, meet with advisors, and attend lectures, conventions, or field trips than their peers at public institutions.

First-Generation Students Succeed at Independent Colleges and Universities



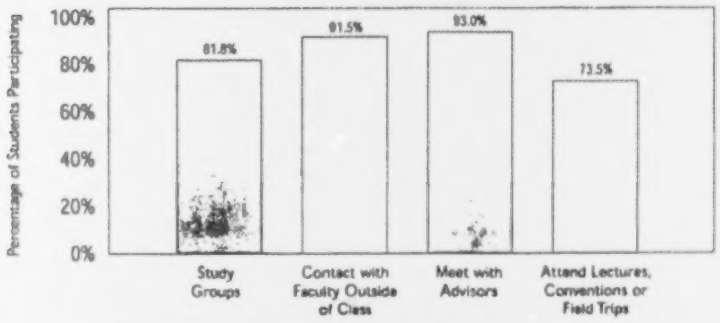
Note: Data are for 1989-90 beginning postsecondary undergraduates according to persistence and degree attainment status as of 1994. First-generation student is defined as one whose parents' highest education level is a high school diploma or less.
Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, *First-Generation Students: Undergraduates Whose Parents Never Enrolled in Postsecondary Education*, 1998.



According to a 1996 Standard and Poor's survey of 70,000 leading executives, 50 percent of respondents received their undergraduate degree from an independent college or university. Of those with graduate degrees, 62 percent received them at an independent institution.

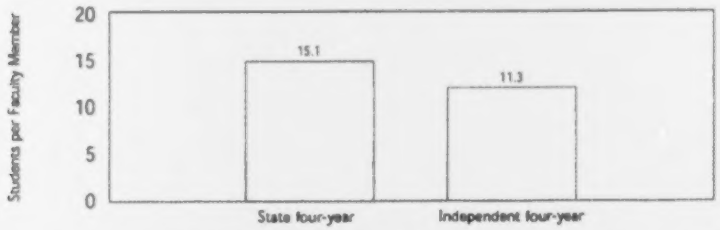
This personal attention benefits all students, resulting in higher degree completion rates. For example, nearly 63 percent of students who are the first in their families to attend college completed their bachelor's degree within five years at an independent college, compared to 46 percent at a public four-year institution.

Students at Independent Colleges and Universities Benefit Beyond the Classroom



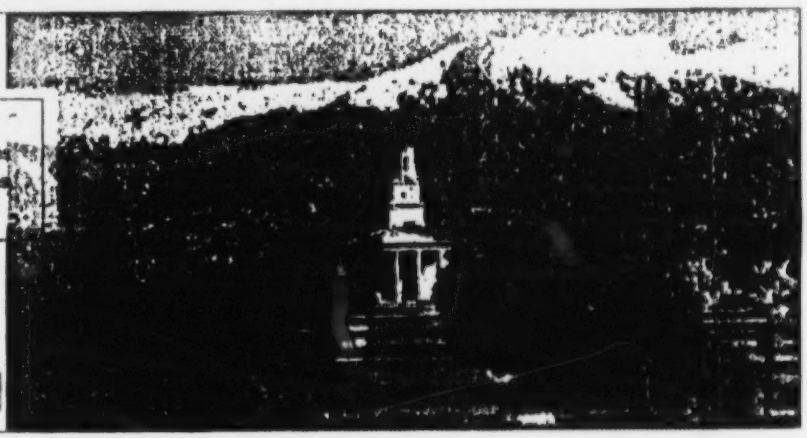
Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Descriptive Summary of 1995-96 Beginning Postsecondary Students.

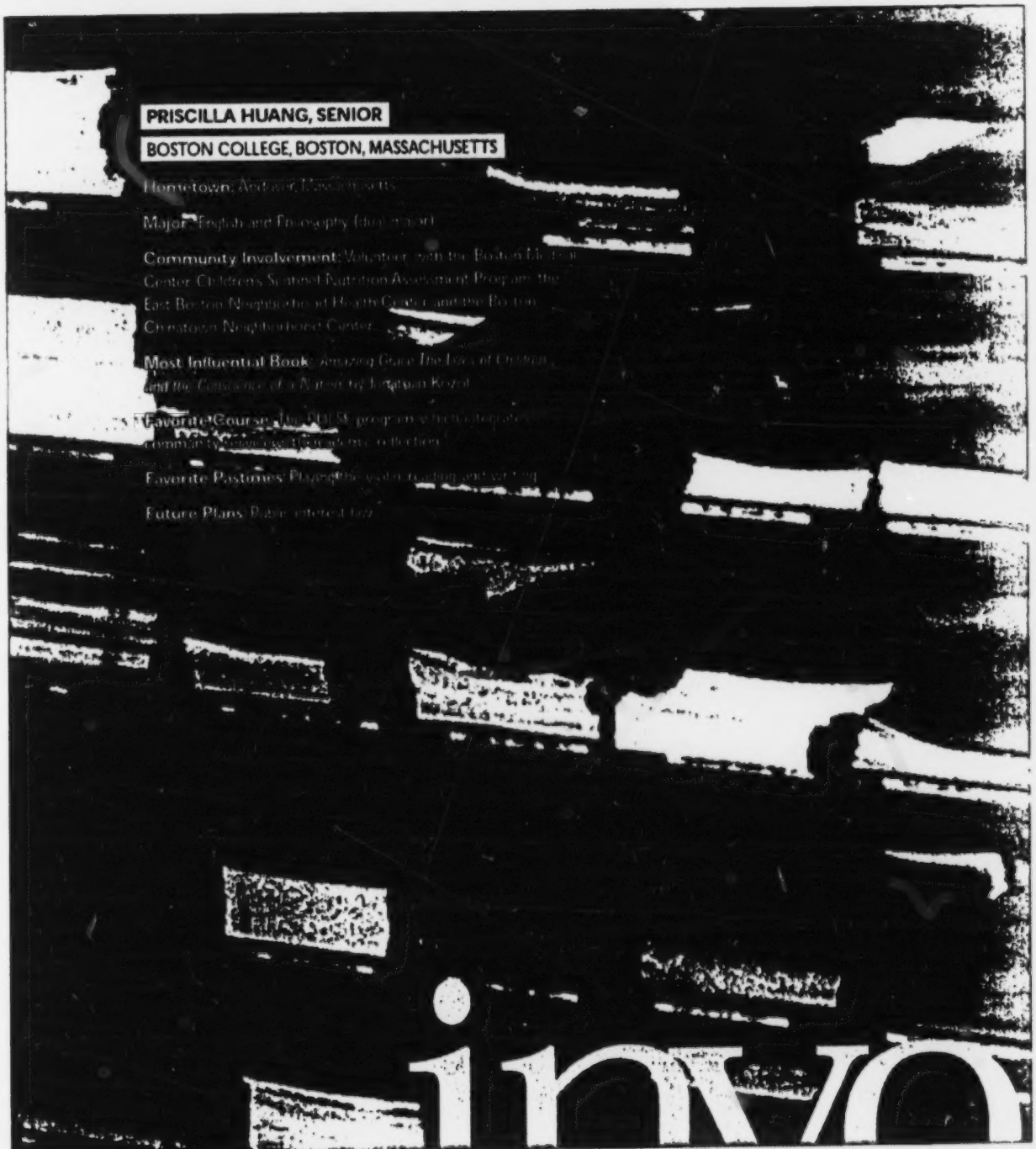
Student-to-Faculty Ratios Are Lower at Independent Colleges and Universities



Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Institutional Postsecondary Education Data Survey 1995; Employees and Institutions of Higher Education, 1995.
Note: Includes full-time and part-time instructional faculty and excludes graduate teaching assistants.

The majority of expenditures at independent colleges and universities goes for instruction, student services and scholarships.





Throughout her time in college, Priscilla has merged her ideals with gritty reality by participating in a range of social programs. "This is the way college should be — to promote social awareness and connections with people whose worlds are different from yours," she says. As at many private colleges, over 90 percent of Boston College students participate in community service work before they graduate.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

"Being in college is not only a privilege but is a responsibility. I always try to remember that while I'm a college student, I'm also part of the world beyond campus."

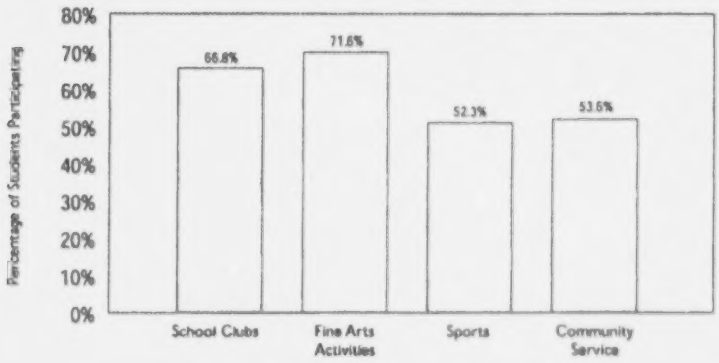
INVOLVED

Independent colleges and universities are involved in the world beyond the classroom and campus in countless ways — as major employers, sources of a ready pool of volunteers, and leaders in research to benefit all of society. Many private colleges and universities have also joined with their off-campus neighbors in innovative and ambitious partnerships to revitalize the local community.

Independent institutions employ three-quarters of a million people nationwide, and are frequently the single largest private employers in their areas. In 2000, independent colleges and universities had estimated revenues of $87 billion. As these dollars work their way through local economies, their effect is multiplied into a cumulative economic impact exceeding $215 billion.

More than half of students attending private institutions participate in volunteer and community service activities, averaging eight hours per week.

Students at Independent Colleges and Universities Are Active on Campus



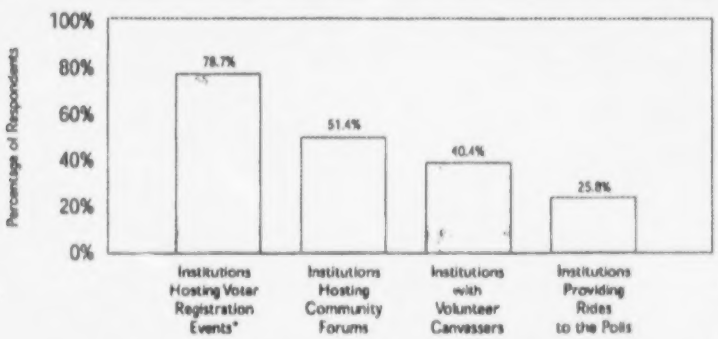
Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Descriptive Summary of 1995-96 Beginning Postsecondary Students.

Between 1901 and 2000, 75 percent of U.S. winners of the Nobel Prize who were affiliated with institutions of higher education were at private colleges and universities.

On the cutting edge of scientific discovery, independent colleges and universities annually attract more than $10 billion of federal research funding while developing ways to help save lives, improve the quality of life, and keep the U. S. globally competitive.

Private higher education has long partnered with elementary and secondary schools, most commonly to prepare teachers, support at-risk students, and prepare and motivate students to attend college. In recent years, many independent institutions are also closely involved in projects to improve local economies and enhance communities.

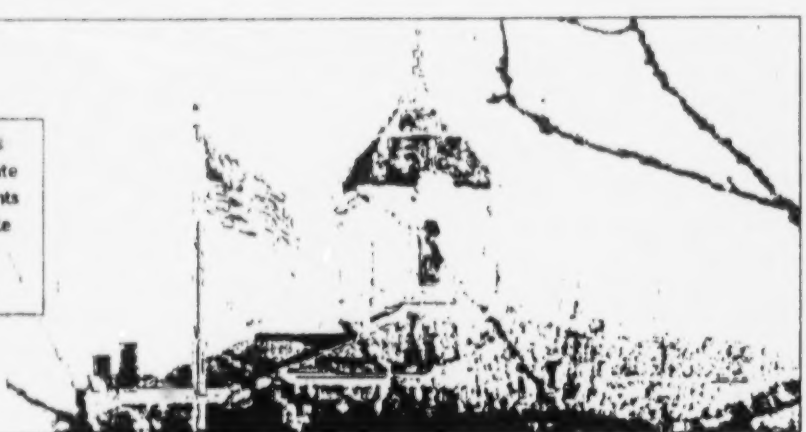
Independent Colleges and Universities Are Active in Voter Education Activities



*Includes special events that exceed the 1998 HEA requirements for the distribution of voter registration forms.

Source: NAICU Voter Registration Activity Survey, 2000.

While private institutions enroll less than one-quarter of all undergraduate students, 41 percent of Ph.D. recipients in 1998 received their undergraduate degrees at an independent college or university.



KARRIEM GAINES, SENIOR

BLOOMFIELD COLLEGE, BLOOMFIELD, NEW JERSEY

Hometown: Irvington, New Jersey

Major: English Communication

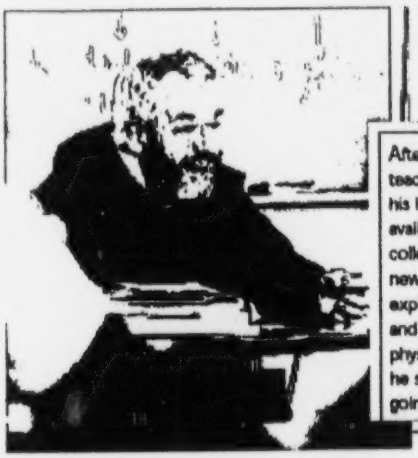
Internships: [illegible]

Favorite Courses: [illegible]

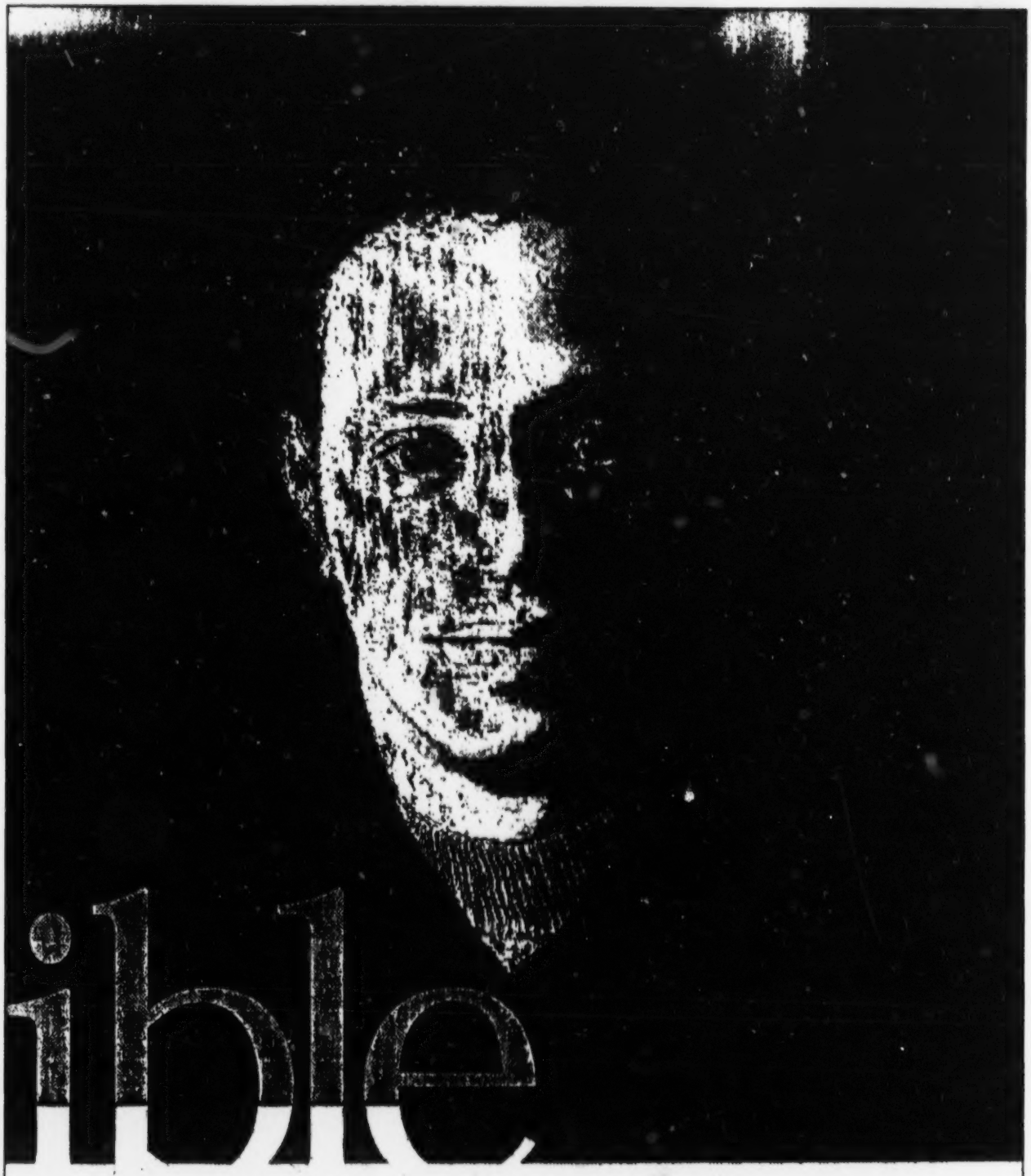
Most Important Job Beyond College: [illegible]

Favorite Pastimes: [illegible]

Future Plans: [illegible]



After deciding to become an elementary teacher, Karriem enrolled in college in his late 20s. The options and resources available on campus not only made college possible, but also opened up new avenues he had not considered exploring, such as desktop publishing and journalism. "Financially, mentally, physically, going to college is a challenge," he says. "It's not easy, but I believe it's going to be worth my while."

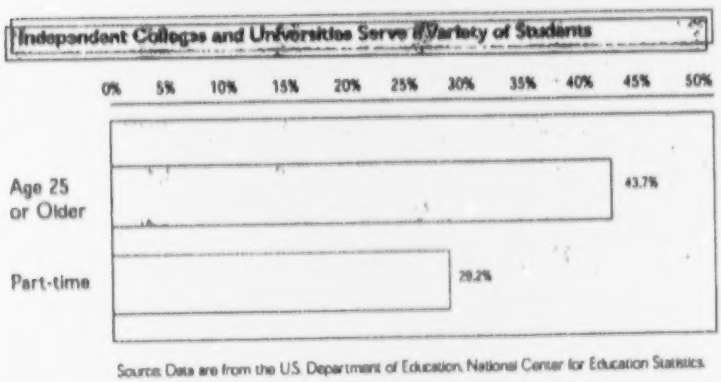


"This college has really helped me mature and sort out what's out there. The professors here have taught me a lot, and not just book knowledge. They're really giving you the tools you need for the real world."

FLEXIBLE

The nation's 1,600 independent colleges and universities are flexible enough in their programs and convenient enough in their locations to meet the needs of virtually everyone pursuing higher education — whether they're coming directly out of high school, returning as an older degree student, or improving their career skills part-time while continuing to work. Students can select a private college close to home, or get away to an urban, suburban, or rural campus, depending on their preferences.

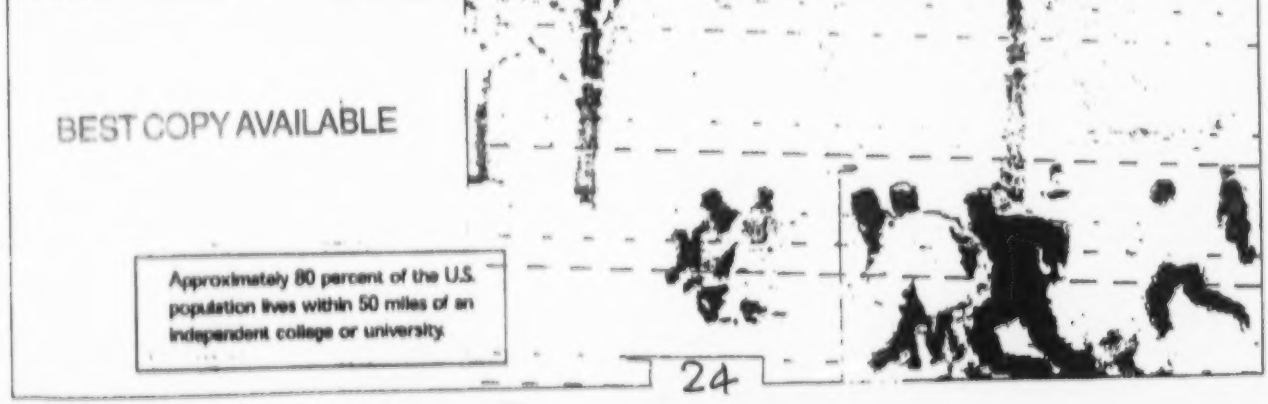
The flexibility at private colleges and universities also extends to their hours and their offerings, as well as to the creation of satellite campuses close to where students live or work.



Source: Data are from the U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics.

Independent colleges and universities serve the needs of students from all backgrounds. For example, nearly 63 percent of students who are the first in their family to attend college completed their undergraduate degree within five years at an independent institution, compared to 46 percent at public four-year colleges.

Workers/Managers, Gen" / "Business, General" / Construction/Building Technology / Technician / Anthropology / "Institutional Food Workers / Administrators, Gen" / Educational/Instru
Media Tech / Ceramics Arts and Ceramics / Photographic Technology/Technician / English Composition / Art Teacher Education / Metallurgical Technology / Technician / Communicati
Systems Installer and Repairer / Mechanical Engineering / American (United States) History / "Home Economics, Other" / Theoretical and Mathematical Physics / Family Resou
Management Studies / Mechanical Engin / Mechanical Tech / "Protective Services, Other" / Painting / Computer Science / Broadcast Journalism / Social Studies Teacher Education / "L
(LLB, JD)" / "Miscellaneous Physical Sciences, Other" / Fire Protection and Safety Tech / Community Psychology / Earth and Planetary Sciences / Medical Pharmacology
Pharmaceutical Sci / "Health/Medical Diagnostic & Treatment Svcs,Oth" / Education of the Emotionally Handicapped / Executive Assistant/Secretary / Legal Administrat
Assistant/Secretary / Landscape Architecture / "Engineering-Related Tech, Other" / Sculpture / Business Computer Programming/Programmer / "Civil Engineering, General
Engineering Mechanics / Pre-Dentistry Studies / Family and Community Studies / Medical Physiology / Educational Supervision / Medical Technology / Dance Therapy / Hea
System/Health Se[illegible] (Post-RN) / Health and Medical Administrative Svcs, Other" / Food Cate
/ Medical Administrative Assistant/Secretary / Econometrics and Quantitative Economics / Social Work / Accounting / Food Sales Operations / Latin American Studies / Geograp
"Mechanical Engin-Related Tech, Other" / Automotive Engineering Technology/Technician / "Geological and Related Sciences, Other" / Radio and Television Broadcasting / Occupatio
Therapy / Agronomy and Crop Science / Institutional Food Services Administrator / Hospitality/Administration Management / Experimental Psychology / Music - General Performer
/ Education of the Gifted and Talented / Speech-Language Pathology / Visual and Performing Arts / Italian Language and Literature / Criminal Justice Studies / Criminal Justice / L
Enforcement Admin / "Public Admin/Services, Oth" / Financial Planning / Auto/Automotive Body Repairer / Medical Dietician / Medical Cell Biology / European Studies / "Construct
Trades, Other" / "Special Education, General" / Computer Engineering / Education of the Specific Learning Disabled / Toxicology / Hotel/Motel Services Marketing Operations / Pac
Area Studies / Industrial/Manufacturing Engineering / "Visual and Performing Arts, Other" / Demography/Population Studies / Engineering Science / Philosophy / Educational Evaluati
and Research / "Conservation/Renewable Natural Resources, Oth" / "Education, Other" / "Physical Sciences, General" / "Civil Engineering, Other" / Veterinary Medicine (DVM) / R
Estate / Greek Language / Literature (Ancient & Medieval) / Public Administration / Cell Biology / "Electrical, Electronic, Commun Engin Tech" / Mining Operations/Mining & D
Teacher Educ / "Foods and Nutrition Studies, Other" / Art Therapy / Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology / "Health & Related Sci, Oth" / American Literature (United State
"Biological Sciences/Life Sciences, Other" / "Accounting, Other" / "Mathematics, Other" / Medical Assistant / Music - Voice and Choral / Opera Performance / Classics and Classi
Languages & Literatures / "Animal Sciences, Other" / Nutritional Sciences / "Marketing Management and Research, Other" / Drawing / Transportation and Highway Engineerin
Bible/Biblical Studies / Medical Radiologic Technology/Technician / Medical Toxicology / "Divinity/Ministry (BD, MDiv)" / International Business Marketing / Instrumentati
Technology/Technician / "Applied Mathematics, Other" / Quality Control Technology/Technician / Computer Teacher Education / "Nursing, Adult Health (Post-RN)" / Architectu
Engineering Tech / Teaching English as a Second / Foreign Language / Surveying / "Parks, Recreation and Leisure Studies" / Diesel Engine Mechanic and Repairer / Vehicle Parts
Accessories Marketing Oper / Medical Immunology / "Applied Mathematics, General" / Evolutionary Biology / Architectural Urban Design and Planning / Clinical Psychology / Nurs
Administration (Post-RN) / Musicology and Ethnomusicology / Developmental and Child Psychology / Emergency Medical Technology / Technician / Western European Studie
Medieval and Renaissance Studies / Liberal Arts and Sciences / Liberal Studies / French Language Teacher Education / "Agricultural Production Workers / Managers, Gen" / Radio
Television Broadcast Tech / "Child Growth, Care and Development Studies" / Musical Instrument Repairer / Comparative Literature / "Nursing, Family Practice (Post-RN)" / "Perso
and Miscellaneous Services, Other" / Spanish Language Teacher Education / Agricultural Teacher Education (Vocational) / International Agriculture / "Juridical Sci/Le
Specializ(LLM,MCL,JSD/SJD)" / "History, Other" / Tool and Die Maker/Technologist / Geological Engineering / Archeology / Family and Marriage Counseling / "Psychology, Other
Investments and Securities / Hebrew Language and Literature / International Finance / Funeral Services and Mortuary Science / "Individual and Family Development Studies, Oth
African Studies / Entrepreneurship / "Political Science and Government, Other" / Civil Engineering/Civil Technology / Technician / "Agriculture/Agricultural Sciences, General" / "Bota
General" / Food Sciences and Technology / Exercise Sci/Physiology and Movement Studies / Design and Visual Communications / "Individual and Family Development Studies, Gen
Religious/Sacred Music / Industrial Radiologic Technology / Technician / Music Business Management and Merchandising / "Business Administration and Management, Other
"Theological Studies & Religious Vocations, Other" / "Home Economics, General" / South Asian Studies / "Heating, AC and Refrigeration Tech" / "Admin Assistant/Secretarial Scien
General" / Biological and Physical Sciences / Parasitology / "Design and Applied Arts, Other" / Paralegal/Legal Assistant / Carpenter / Sport and Fitness Administration / Managem
/ Medical Pathology / Chemical Technology/Technician / Criminology / "Agriculture/Agricultural Sciences, Other" / Pastoral Counseling and Specialized Ministries / "Historic Prese
Conserv & Architectural Hist" / American Studies/Civilization / Dance / Social Science Teacher Education / Agricultural Animal Health / Consumer Economics and Science / "Par
Recreation and Leisure Facilities Mgmt" / Business Communications / School Psychology / Computer Engineering Technology/Technician / Electrocardiograph Tec[illegible]ology / Technic
/ Biometrics / "Chemistry, General" / Pre-Pharmacy Studies / Arabic Language and Literature / "Foreign Languages and Literatures, Other" / Forest Harvesting and Production Tec
South Asian Languages and Literatures / Materials Science / Medical Illustrating / Public Relations and Org Communications / Foreign Language Interpretation & Translatio
"Horticulture Services Oper and Mgmt, General" / "Health and Physical Education / Fitness, Other" / Radiation Biology/Radiobiology / Mathematical Statistics / Pre-Veterinary Stud
/ "Crafts, Folk Art and Artisanry" / Technology / Industrial Arts Teacher Education / "Basic Medical Sciences, Other" / General Studies / "Mental Health Services, Other" / Biolog
Technology / Technician / Biopsychology / "Dental Clinical Sci/Grad Dentistry (MS,PhD)" / Scandinavian Languages and Literatures / German Language Teacher Education / "Medi
Clinical Sciences (MS,PhD)" / Actuarial Science / Geochemistry / Dairy Science / Financial Services Marketing Operations / "Educational Assessment, Testing & Measurement
"Architecture and Related Programs, Other" / Biostatistics / Library Assistant / "Communications, Other" / Journalism / Environmental / Environmental Health Engineering / Child C
Provider/Assistant / "Teacher Educ, Specific Academic /Voc Progs, Oth" / Data Processing Technology / Technician / Human Resources Management / Socio-Psychological Sports Studi
/ Systems Science and Theory / "Education, General" / Medical Records Administration / English Technical and Business Writing / "Mechanics and Repairers, Other" / Nuclear Engineer
/ "Philosophy and Religion, Other" / Industrial and Organizational Psychology / Epidemiology / Industrial/Manufacturing Technology / Technician / Adult and Continuing Teacher Educati
/ "Fine Arts and Art Studies, Other" / Applied and Resource Economics / Reading Teacher Education / Dietician Assistant / "Engineering, Other" / "Mgmt Info Systems/Business D
Processing,Gen" / Architectural Drafting / Management Science / Marketing Research / Physics Teacher Education / Dental Hygienist / Optometry (OD) / "Woodworkers, Genera
"Criminal Justice and Corrections, Other" / Business Computer Facilities Operator / Russian and Slavic Area Studies / Wildlife and Wildlands Management / "Finance, General" / P
Theological/Pre-Ministerial Studies / Marine/Aquatic Biology / "Public Health, General" / Petroleum Engineering / Religious Education / Drama and Dance Teacher Educatio
Commercial Photography / Food Products Retailing and Wholesaling Oper / Forensic Technology/Technician / "Fire Protection, Other" / Playwriting and Screenwriting / Gene
Retailing Operations / "Rehabilitation/Therapeutic Services, Other" / "Veterinary Clinical Sciences (MS,PhD)" / Hypnotherapy / Biophysics / "Economics, General" / "Botany, Other
Education of the Deaf and Hearing Impaired / Pre-Law Studies / "Drama/Theater Arts, General" / Perfusion Technology Technician / Trade and Industrial Teacher Educ (Vocationa
"Pharmacy, Other" / Music - Piano and Organ Performance / Robotics Technology Technician / Law Enforcement/Police Science / Agricultural Economics / Bioengineering and Biomedi
Engineering / Education of the Speech Impaired / Polymer/Plastics Engineering / Hotel/Motel and Restaurant Management / Logistics and Materials Management / Electrician / So
and Philosophical Foundations of Educ / "Nursing, Pediatric (Post-RN)" / Development Economics/Intl Development / Technical Theater/Theater Design & Stagecraft / Accountin
Ornamental Horticulture Operations and Mgmt / Interior Architecture / Occupational Therapy Assistant / "Aerospace, Aeronautical,Astronautical Engin" / "Dramatic Theater Arts
Stagecraft, Other" / Atmospheric Sciences and Meteorology / American Government and Politics / Physician Assistant / Ophthalmic Medical Technologist / Business Home Econom
/ Neuroscience / Information Processing/Data Entry Technician / Dental Assistant / "Zoology, General"Higher Education Administration / "Aircraft Mechanic/Technician, Powerplan
Foods and Nutrition Science / Agricultural Engineering / Talmudic Studies / Optics / "Business Information/Data Processing Svcs, Oth" / "Drama/Theater Literature, History & Critici
/ Sign Language Interpreter / International Relations and Affairs / Vehicle Marketing Operations / "Business Quantitative Methods / Mgmt Science,Oth" / Welder /Welding Technolo
/ Aviation and Airway Science / Physical Therapy / "Apparel/Accessories Marketing Operations, Gen" / Education of the Blind & Visually Handicapped / Music History and Literatur
Building / Property Maintenance and Manager / Aquaculture Operations and Production Mgmt / "Chemistry, Other" / American Indian/Native American Studies / Child Care Servi
Manager / Turf Management / Psychoanalysis / Medical Molecular Biology / Computer Systems Analysis / Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering / Family Life and Relations Stud
/ "Nursing, Public Health (Post-RN)" / "Genetics, Plant and Animal" / Industrial Electronics Installer and Repairer / Laser and Optical Technology / Technician / Pharmacy Administrat
and Pharmaceutics / Biological Immunology / Architectural Engineering / Intermedia / Non-Profit and Public Management / Organizational Behavior Studies / Counseling Psycholog
Plant Physiology / Nursing Midwifery (Post-RN) / Medical Records Technology/Technician / "Library and Archival Sciences, Other" / "Enterprise Management and Operation, Gener


BEST COPY AVAILABLE
Approximately 80 percent of the U.S. population lives within 50 miles of an independent college or university.

"There is something very special about spending four years of your life in an intensive intellectual environment. All of those influences — from your friends to your professors to the organizations you join — help mold and shape you into the individual that you become."

MICHELE CHRISTIANSEN, ALUMNA

LAWRENCE UNIVERSITY, APPLETON, WISCONSIN

Hometown: Salt Lake City, Utah

Present Position: Assistant U.S. Attorney, U.S. Attorney's Office, District of Utah, working in the Violent Crime Section

Best Aspect of Job: I love being on the side of justice, writing, going to court, talking to juries.

Degrees: B.A. in History, Lawrence University; J.D. University of Utah

Favorite Course: History of Western Political Thought

Fondest College Memory: [illegible] continuing impact on my life.

Favorite Pastimes: Skiing, [illegible]

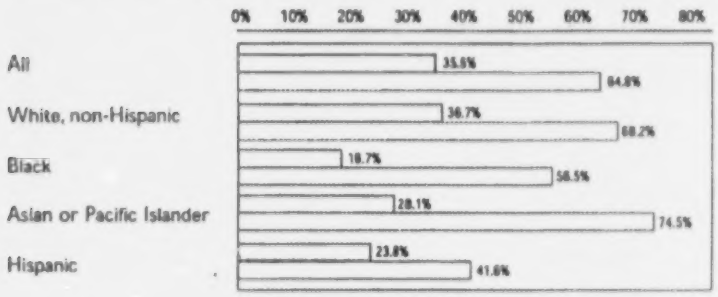
"I learned a great deal about critical thinking, about looking beyond surface ideas," Michele recalls, "and I have to do that in my job." She credits both her professors and "being part of a small but intellectual community" with expanding her horizons and honing her skills. "I came back home with a greater appreciation of who I was, and how to become a better member of society," she says.

SUCCESSFUL

Independent colleges and universities are successful in helping students achieve their goals. Students who completed their undergraduate degrees at private colleges were more likely to do so in four years than students at public institutions. Sixty-five percent of students who received a bachelor's degree from an independent college or university were able to complete their degrees in four years or less, compared with 34 percent of graduates of four-year state institutions. The advantage to students attending independent colleges and universities is evident for all ethnic groups.

Successfully completing their undergraduate degrees on time and entering the workforce also helps graduates of independent colleges reduce the effective price of their education compared to their counterparts at state institutions.

Students at Independent Colleges and Universities Complete Degrees More Quickly



Graduates receiving B.A. in four years.

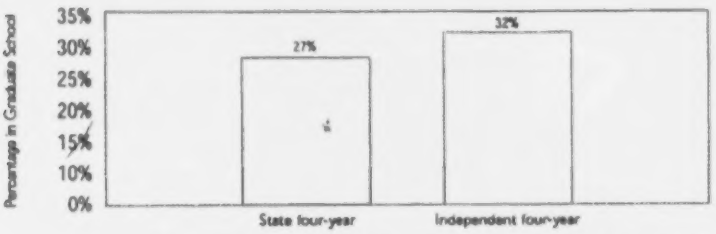
State four-year
Independent four-year

Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Baccalaureate and Beyond Longitudinal Study, 1994.
Note: Calculations are based on the percentage of bachelor's degree recipients that complete their B.A. in four years.

Twenty-two of the 33 college-educated presidents of the United States are graduates of independent institutions.

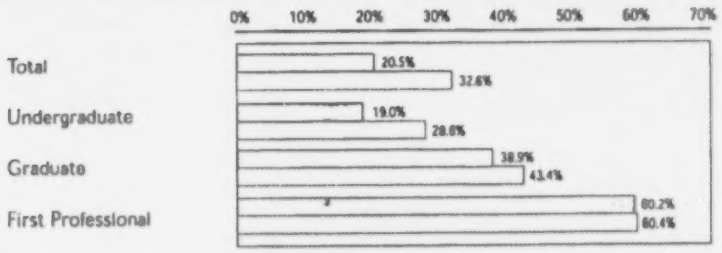
However, the real measure of how successful these students become may lie in the reasoning, ethical, and social skills they acquire through the caring and supportive environment they find at an independent college. By learning to think critically and communicate effectively, and by appreciating learning as a lifelong journey, private college and university students develop the abilities that will serve them well, wherever life may take them.

Graduates of Independent Colleges and Universities Pursue Advanced Degrees



Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Baccalaureate and Beyond Longitudinal Study 1997.

Independent Colleges and Universities Confer One-Third of All Degrees



Source: Data are from the U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics. Analysis by the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities.

No student pays the full cost of higher education. On average, tuition covers just 62 percent of what it costs an independent institution to provide an education.

SUMMARY

Independent colleges and universities are

diverse

- The 1,600 independent colleges and universities in the United States enroll 2.9 million students. The number of students at these institutions ranges from fewer than 100 to more than 30,000, averaging 1,851.
- The proportion of minority students enrolled at independent and state four-year institutions is similar — 24 percent at independent and 25 percent at state colleges and universities.
- Independent institutions enroll about the same proportion of students from families earning less than $30,000 a year as from families earning more than $75,000 a year.

affordable

- Eighty percent of dependent, full-time undergraduates in independent higher education received some form of financial assistance in 1995-96, averaging $10,794.
- Much of the aid to students comes from the institutions' own resources — nearly $8 billion in 1999-2000. Students at independent colleges and universities receive more than four times as much grant aid from institutional sources as comes from federal sources.
- If states were to assume the responsibility for educating students who now attend independent colleges and universities, the additional annual cost to taxpayers would total $13 billion.

personal

- Student-faculty ratios are lower at independent colleges and universities than at state institutions. The majority of expenditures at independent institutions goes for instruction, student services, and scholarships.
- Nearly 63 percent of students who are the first in their families to attend college completed their bachelor's degrees within five years at an independent college, compared to 46 percent at a public institution.

involved

- Independent colleges and universities employ three-quarters of a million people nationwide, and had estimated revenues of $87 billion in 1999-2000. As these dollars work their way through local economies, their effect is multiplied into a cumulative economic impact exceeding $215 billion.
- More than half of students attending private institutions participate in volunteer and community service activities, averaging eight hours per week. Nearly 80 percent of independent institutions hosted voter registration events in the 2000 election.

flexible

- Independent colleges and universities meet a variety of students' needs. Forty-four percent of students are 25 or older, and 30 percent attend part-time.
- Independent institutions offer degrees in more than 760 fields of study.
- Approximately 80 percent of the U.S. population lives within 50 miles of an independent college or university.

successful

- While enrolling 21 percent of all students, independent colleges and universities award one-third of all degrees: 29 percent of undergraduate degrees, 43 percent of graduate degrees, and 60 percent of first professional degrees in fields such as law, medicine, engineering, and business.
- Sixty-five percent of students who received a bachelor's degree from an independent college or university were able to complete their degrees in four years or less, compared with 34 percent of graduates of state institutions. Private college graduates are also more likely to pursue advanced study than their public sector counterparts.
- Fifty percent of senior corporate executives received their undergraduate degree from an independent college or university. Of those with graduate degrees, 62 percent received them at an independent institution.

This publication is a cooperative effort between the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (NAICU) and the Foundation for Independent Higher Education (FIHE). The organizations share a commitment to increasing the public understanding and support of America's 1,600 independent colleges and universities. NAICU represents independent higher education on public policy issues with the U.S. Congress and the federal executive and regulatory agencies. FIHE is the national partner in a network of 37 state and regional funds whose aim is to broaden corporate and philanthropic support of independent higher education.

Additional support for research used in this publication was provided by the Council of Independent Colleges (CIC), an association of independent colleges and universities that assists institutions in improving leadership expertise, educational programs, administrative and financial performance, and institutional visibility.

We are grateful to the Citigroup Foundation, the ExxonMobil Foundation, and the UPS Foundation for their generous financial support that made the printing and distribution of this publication possible.

The Citigroup Foundation's global giving program focuses on education and community development. In higher education, the Foundation funds scholarships for minorities and women, and it supports curriculum development in countries with developing economies.

The ExxonMobil Foundation is funded by the ExxonMobil Corporation. The Foundation provides support for programs in various areas such as the environment, civic and community services, and the arts. The support of education, including private higher education, remains as ExxonMobil's highest priority for contributions.

The UPS (United Parcel Service) Foundation created an endowment fund at the Foundation of Independent Higher Education that is now valued at more than $50 million. This fund provides scholarships at more than 670 private colleges each year as well as initiatives to advance the cause of private higher education.

© 2001 by the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities

2R

Many thanks to the member institutions who allowed us to use their photographs:

Inside Front Cover: Susquehanna University / Stephen Spartana
page 3: Franklin and Marshall College / Courtesy of Franklin and Marshall College
page 4: Bucknell University / Terry Wild
page 5: Hendrix College / Jason Jones
page 7: New York University / Bob Handelman
page 8: Clarkson University / Tom Watson
page 9: Rollins College / Courtesy of Rollins College
page 10: Allegheny College / Stephen Spartana
page 12: St. John's College / Steve Wolt
page 13: University of Redlands / Courtesy of University of Redlands
page 14: Palm Beach Atlantic College / Ken Touchton
page 16: Lynchburg College / Courtesy of Lynchburg College
page 17: Linfield College / Jerome Hart
page 19: Saint Anselm College / Kindra Clineff
page 20: St. Lawrence University / Matt Siber
page 21: Amherst College / Frank Ward
page 23: College of New Rochelle / Peter Finger
page 23: Susquehanna University / Terry Wild
page 24: Macalester College / Bill Denison

Design: Robert Rytter & Associates
Black-and-white photography: Joe Rubino
Printing: Schmitz Press

This publication was made possible through the generous financial support of the following foundations:

citigroup foundation

ExxonMobil

UPS

NAICU

National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities
1025 Connecticut Avenue, N.W. Suite 700
Washington, DC 20036
Voice: (202) 785-8866 Fax: (202) 835-0003
www.naicu.edu

The Foundation for Independent Higher Education
PARTNERSHIP for PRIVATE COLLEGES

The Foundation for Independent Higher Education
1920 N Street, N.W. Suite 210
Washington, DC 20036
Voice: (202) 367-0333 Fax: (202) 367-0334
www.fihe.org

THE COUNCIL OF INDEPENDENT COLLEGES

Council of Independent Colleges
One Dupont Circle, N.W. Suite 320
Washington, DC 20036
Voice: (202) 466-7230 Fax: (202) 466-7238
www.cic.edu